

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 7, 14, 15, 21, 24, 27-32, 34, 41-46, 56-57, and 61-64 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 14, 15, 21, 24, 27-32, 34, 41-46, and 53-61 are rejected. Claims 53, 54, 55, 58, 59, and 60 are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice to renewal (e.g., in a continuation application). Claims 7, 24, 30, 34, 62, 63, and 64 are independent.

Cited Art

The Action cites Evans et al., "Splint Manual, Version 3.1.1-1," June 5, 2003 ("Splint").

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 101

The Action rejects claims 7, 14, 15, 21, 24, 27-32, 34, 41-46, and 53-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants have amended claims 7, 24, 30, and 34, by adding "by the computer." Exemplary support is found in the Application at page 28, lines 23-29.

Accordingly, the methods can no longer be said to be performed "by any means." The claims now stand ready for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102

The Action rejects claims 53-55 and 58-60 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Splint. In the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have canceled the claims.

New Claims

Applicants have added new claims 62, 63, and 64, which recite “computer-readable storage media” and mimic the language of claims 7, 24, and 30. Although the language is not identical, Applicants believe the claims stand ready for allowance.

Interview Request

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

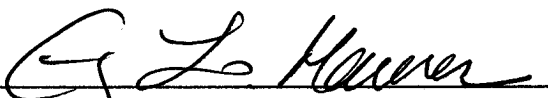
Conclusion

The claims in their present form should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

One World Trade Center, Suite
1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 595-5300
Facsimile: (503) 595-5301

By 
Gregory L. Maurer
Registration No. 43,781